

What is claimed is:

1. A printing apparatus that prints print data sent from a host apparatus connected via a network, comprising:
- 5 a storage section including an image data area that stores image data acquired by interpreting a page description language of the print data sent from said host apparatus and a compressed data area that stores compressed data obtained by compressing said image data;
- 10 a first decision section that decides whether or not to store the compressed data of said print data in said compressed data area;
- a prediction section that predicts a data volume of the compressed data of said print data; and
- 15 a second decision section that decides whether it is possible to store or not the compressed data of the data volume predicted by said prediction section in said compressed data area.
- 20 2. The printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first decision section decides whether or not to store the compressed data of the print data in said compressed data area based on information added to said print data and said prediction section predicts a volume
- 25 of the compressed data of the print data based on the information added to said print data.
3. The printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

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8. The printing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said first decision section decides, when no printing medium to which the image data of said print data is printed exists in the apparatus, that the compressed data of the print data should be stored in said compressed data area.

9. The printing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a compression/decompression section that compresses the image data of said print data and stores the compressed data in said compressed data area on one hand, and decompresses the compressed data stored in said compressed data area on the other, wherein said prediction section predicts a data volume of the compressed data of said print data based on said total number of pages and the compression rate of said compression/decompression section corresponding to the size of the printing medium to which the data is printed.

10. The printing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the compression rate of said compression/decompression section is a compression rate when the compression rate is a minimum for the size of said printing medium to which the data is printed.

11. The printing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a language interpretation section that interprets a page description language of the print data

received from said host apparatus and acquires image data,  
wherein said second decision section decides whether it  
is possible to store or not the compressed data of the  
data volume predicted by said prediction section in said  
5 compressed data area and, if it is possible to store the  
compressed data, instructs said language interpretation  
section to subject the page description language to an  
interpretation process and instructs said  
compression/decompression section to carry out a  
10 compression process.

12. The printing apparatus according to claim 11, further  
comprising a printing section that prints image data  
stored in said image data area to a printing medium,  
15 wherein said compression/decompression section, when  
carrying out printing processing on the compressed data  
stored in said compressed data area, carries out  
decompression processing on the compressed data.

20 13. The printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said second decision section, when it is not possible  
to store the compressed data of the data volume predicted  
by said prediction section in said compressed data area,  
notifies this to said host apparatus.

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14. A copying apparatus that prints print data sent from  
a host apparatus connected via a network, comprising:  
the printing apparatus according to claim 1; and

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a copying unit that scans a document and copies the scanned image data, wherein the compressed data area of said printing apparatus stores the image data transmitted/received by said image communication unit and image data scanned by said copying unit.

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deciding whether or not to store compressed data

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if the compressed data should be stored in said  
compressed data area;

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C/O